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# Message Text

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17
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 MC-02 ACDA-05 /086 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:MJPLATT
APPROVED BY ARA/CEN:DLAZAR
---------- 097029
R 230019Z OCT 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL BELIZE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 251699

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GT, BH, UK, USUN

SUBJECT: BELIZE

REFERENCES: (A) LONDON 16038; (B) GUATEMALA 5673;
(C) GUATEMALA 5830; (D) STATE 247553; (E) BELIZE 685

1. UK EMBASSY'S DAVID WALKER CALLED ON ARA/CEN OCT 21
TO DISCUSS BRITISH BELIZEAN POLICY. WALKER HAD BEEN
INSTRUCTED TO GO OVER BRITISH VERSION OF CALLAGHAN-MOLINA
CONVERSATION WITH DEPARTMENT (REF.A).

2. TONE OF CONVERSATION HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN QUITE BRISK,
BUT, AT LEAST AS BRITISH HAVE RECORDED IT, NOT WHAT ONE
COULD CALL INSULTING OR HUMILIATING. NEED FOR CONTINUED
NEGOTIATIONS AND EVENTUAL ACCOMMODATION WERE DISCUSSED
AT LENGTH BUT CALLAGHAN ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HAD MADE IT
PERFECTLY CLEAR THAT END RESULT MUST BE BELIZEAN INDE-
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PENDENCE. CALLAGHAN WARNED MOLINA THAT UK WOULD RESIST

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AN ARMED ATTACK. WALKER SAID HE HAD QUERIED LONDON TO SEE IF THIS MEANT POSITION ON POST-INDEPENDENCE DEFENSE GUARANTEE HAD CHANGED. LONDON HAD REPLIED NEGATIVELY, BRITISH DO NOT INTEND TO GET INTO BUSINESS OF DEFENDING BELIZE INDEFINITELY. CALLAGHAN REJECTED ALL GUATEMALAN CLAIMS TO SOVEREIGNTY OVER BELIZE BUT HELD OUT OFFER OF BORDER RECTIFICATIONS AND QUOTE ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS

UNQUOTE. ALSO MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF TREATY ON TERRITORIAL SEA.

3. DEPTOFFS STRESSED AND WALKER AGREED THAT OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE TO ACTUAL LANGUAGE USED WAS WAY IN WHICH GOG PERCEIVED AND REACTED TO BRITISH COMMENTS. (REF.B)

4. WALKER SAID A THIRD UN DRAFT RESOLUTION HAS EMERGED, SPONSORED BY THE CARIBBEANS AND MORE MODERATE IN TONE THAN LAST WEEK'S VERSION (REF.D). THIS DRAFT IS NOW UNDERGOING APPROVAL PROCESS IN LONDON AND BELIZE AND WILL THEN BE CIRCULATED. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ASKED WHEN GUATEMALANS WOULD BE CONSULTED AND STRESSED DANGER OF WAITING TOO LONG, THUS APPEARING TO GUATEMALANS TO BE PRESENTING FAIT ACCOMPLI. WALKER SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THAT DANGER AND NEED TO ALLOW GUATEMALANS AT LEAST A FACE-SAVING CHANCE TO COMMENT ON PROPOSED DRAFT BUT DID NOT KNOW HOW UKUN PROPOSED TO HANDLE TIMING. (NOTE: DEPT BELIEVES WALKER WILL PASS OUR CONCERN ON TO LONDON AND UKUN.)

5. WE ATTEMPTED TO PROBE AS TO REASONS BEHIND UK'S FLAT REJECTION OF INTERNATIONAL COURT OPTION. WALKER RESPONDED WITH ARGUMENT ON BELIZEAN UNWILLINGNESS TO RISK ADVERSE DECISION (REF.D). WE POINTED OUT THAT IN TODAY'S WORLD, A DECISION BASED ON QUOTE EX ACQUO ET BONO UNQUOTE SEEMED VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO FAVOR IN-DEPENDENCE FOR BELIZE. WALKER AGREED IN GENERAL BUT HELD OUT LITTLE HOPE UK WOULD CHANGE ITS POSITION.

6. DEPTOFFS ALSO STRESSED POINT THAT GUATEMALANS WOULD INTERPRET ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF BEGINING OF CONFIDENTIAL

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QUOTE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS UNQUOTE (REF.C) AS TANTAMOUNT TO PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE ITSELF. WE ADDED THIS IS A REAL PROBLEM AND BRITISH SHOULD TAKE IT INTO ACCOUNT IN THEIR PLANNING.

7. IN CONFIDENTIAL ASIDE, WE MENTIONED THAT GOVERNOR POSNETT'S REMARKS TO BELIZEAN CABINET ABOUT US QUOTE BEING PREVAILED UPON TO URGE THEIR GUATEMALAN FRIENDS TO

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ACCEPT UN DECISION UNQUOTE WERE LESS THAN HELPFUL.
WE ADDED WE HOPED HMG WAS HARBORING NO SUCH ILLUSIONS.
WALKER GOT THE MESSAGE AND WILL RELAY IT TO LONDON. INGERSOLL

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
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**Draft Date:** 23 OCT 1975
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**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
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**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** BELIZE
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, GT, BH, UK, UN
**To:** GUATEMALA MULTIPLE
**Type:** TE
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